

## **Minutes of the BIEN General Assembly, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Seoul**

Chaired by BIEN Co-Chair Karl Widerquist. Other BIEN EC members present: Secretary Anja Askeland, EC Members for News & Outreach Toru Yamamori and Pablo Yanes and Conference Organizer Hyosang Ahn. BIEN EC members absent: Louise Haagh, Co-Chair; Andrea Fumagalli, Treasurer and Jason Murphy, News & Outreach. The elected treasurer Borja Barragué withdrew from EC June 2015. Also in attendance: Chair of the International Advisory Board Philippe Van Parijs and Honorary Co-Presidents Guy Standing and Eduardo Suplicy. Total BIEN members in attendance: 33 out of 257 members.

1. Approval of the rule keeper.

Mike Howard was approved as rule keeper.

2. Approval of the agenda.

GA approved the agenda.

3. Approval of the minutes of the last GA

Approved by GA.

4. Treasurers report

Since the treasurer was not present the treasurers report was presented by Karl Widerquist.

Comment by Guy Standing, there is a typo in the report, the correct year for the financial situation should be 2014, not 2012. GA asked a question about 1000 euros that BIEN has received in the last period, and EC could not clarify.

Philippe van Parijs: Motion to approve, but the EC should be able to answer questions regarding the report even if the treasurer is not present.

Karl Widerquist sent an request to the treasurer and asked him to clarify over Skype to the GA. The treasurer did not reply to GA.

Motion: Referring the treasurers report to EC for final approval.

Approved by GA.

### **5. Amendments**

a. Replace BIEN's statues with a AISBL

Karl Widerquist presented the new legal document.

Guy Standing: Louise Haagh's birthday must be corrected. In addition there is a typo where two EC members offices had been confused.

Philippe van Parijs: The differences between the existing Statutes and the AISBL need to be clarified. He also informed that to make any changes to the statutes will cost 150 Euro.

Vote: AISBL approved unanimously.

*Attachment: Required changes to the AISBL.*

b. Change of BIEN's description of Basic Income

The former EC received a proposal to change the description of basic income in the Statutes §1, but because of time pressure the proposal was tabled in General Assembly in Montreal 2014. The present EC has in addition received a second proposal. During this Congress EC decided to have a workshop to discuss this important issue. The workshop was chaired by Toru Yamamori. After a long debate both sides finally agreed on a compromise proposal which is proposed for the General Assembly by Toru and seconded by Gabriele Schmidt.

Motion: GA vote to accept this third proposal as minor changes to the other proposals and to replace the other two proposals: Wohlgenannt's proposal and Louise Haagh's proposal.

The motion was unanimously approved.

The Compromise proposal has three parts, where only the first part was an amendment to the Statutes. The General Assembly voted on each part separate. *Attached.*

1. Amendment to the Statutes.

Motion carried by a majority.

Motion 1.

Guy Standing was against this sentence: "BIEN officially endorses the following elaboration of that definition:"

Motion to approve Motion 1 without "BIEN officially endorses the following elaboration of that definition:"

Motion carried by a majority.

Motion 2.

Motion carried by a majority.

c. Yearly Congresses.

Proposal that BIEN will have yearly Congresses whenever affiliate networks are available to host them. If BIEN cannot find affiliate networks to organize Congresses yearly, they will continue with Congresses once every two years.

Philippe Van Parijs: This is a normal motion and not an amendment because it is listed in the Statutes that BIEN should have a congress "at least every second year".

Motion: Not to vote on this.

Approved by a majority.

d. Amendments to electoral procedure & the number of EC members.

In this proposal there were five different motions and GA voted on them one by one.

Nr. 1. BIEN shall elect its positions for the Executive Committee (EC) and all other elected positions through an anonymous electronic voting system at its next congress or as soon as practicable. General Assembly (GA) to mandate the EC to look into and implement such a model, based on experiences such as listed below of the Canadian affiliate network of BIEN (BICN).

Approved by majority. For 15 for, 11 against.

2. The GA or the EC may refer votes on other issues to a vote of the whole membership by the same electronic voting procedure.

Motion: Table it.

Approved.

3. BIEN sets up a Nominations committee to take nominations and encourage nominations where no members have come forward to stand for a position.

Motion: Table it.

Approved.

4. The nominations procedure (Article 17 of the AISBL, article 7b of the pre-existing statutes) shall be amended to include the following: Any member of BIEN may run (stand) for a position by information the secretary prior to the General Assembly meeting without need for anyone to second their nomination.

Approved.

5. BIEN's articles be amended to increase the maximum number of EC members be increased from 9 to 11.

Approved by GA.

Ten-minute break.

6. Venue of the Next Congress(es)

Proposals received by Portugal and Finland.

Portugal application is for Congress 2017, if not approved they apply for Congress 2018. Comments from GA: The date set in the application is the same date as USBIG congress, they must be advised different date. The list of proposed key speakers has few women. They must get a better gender-balance. Make sure the next EC follow up and make sure that the congress is not politicized and well done.

Motion: 17 for, 7 against. Motion carried.

Finland application for Congress 2018. Finland's proposal was presented by Otto Lehto. The congress would be held at Tampere University, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> biggest city in Finland. Sept. 14-16 and 21-23, 2018 are the two proposed dates.

Motion: Motion carried unanimously.

7. Elections

Philippe van Parijs was nominated for the position of Chair of the BIEN International Advisory Board.

Motion carried unanimously.

-Executive Committee.

The Change in the statutes regarding an increase of EC-members from 9-11 is implemented, the following candidates was presented and ran unopposed.

Co-Chair: Louise Haagh  
Co-Chair: Karl Widerquist  
Co-Secretary: Hal Hodson  
Co-Secretary: Julio Aguirre

Treasurer: Andrea Fumagalli

News Editor & Outreach Coordinator: Jenna Van Draanen

Communications Coordinator: Amanda Wray

News Editor: André Coelho

News Editor: Toru Yamamori

News Editor: Kate McFarland

In addition to EC will associate two congress members from the Congress organizing affiliates in Portugal and Finland.

Motion to vote for the whole list.  
Unanimously approved by GA.

#### 8. Recognition of New Affiliate Networks

India - India Network for Basic Income (INBI).  
Sarath Davala presented the application for affiliation.  
Unanimously approved by GA.

New Zealand – Basic Income New Zealand Incorporated (BINZ).  
Tamara d'Auvergne presented the application for affiliation.  
Unanimously approved by GA.

Quebec – Revenue de base Quebec (RBQ)  
Jim Mulvale from Basic Income Network Canada presented the affiliate and mentioned some challenges of regional affiliates. EC need to look into this issue and think about a policy on how to affiliate networks on different levels.  
One abstained. Approved by GA.

Scotland - Citizen's Basic Income Network Scotland (SCIO).  
Barb Jacobson presented the application for affiliation. Comment from Guy Standing regarding regional networks. EC should encourage the regional networks to cooperate closely with the national network.  
Unanimously approved by GA.

Taiwan - Global Basic Income Social Welfare Promotion Association in Taiwan.  
Ping Xu presented the application for affiliation.  
Unanimously approved by GA.

China – BIEN China

Cheng Furui presented the application for affiliation.

Unanimously approved by GA.

9. Motion – thank you Swiss

Unanimously approved by GA.

10. Affiliate volunteers for BIEN

Motion carried unanimously.